

**REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

The Office Action dated December 20, 2004 has been carefully reviewed and the foregoing amendments to the application have been made in consequence thereof. Claims 2 and 24 have been canceled. Claims 1, 3, 17, 23 and 25 have been amended in order to advance the prosecution of this application. Claims 1, 3-23 and 25-27 remain active in this application.

The drawings have been objected to because they do not include reference characters 70 and 72. A drawing replacement sheet having FIG. 3 thereon is provided herewith, on which the missing reference characters have been inserted. The placing of the reference characters is supported by the specification on page 6, last two lines, wherein it is stated that “sealing rings 66 and 68 are seated in annular grooves 70, 72...”

It appears that the replacement sheet corrects the deficiency noted by Examiner, and that withdrawal of the objection to the drawings is in order and is respectfully requested.

The Examiner rejected claims 1, 4, 5, 16 and 23 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Gordon et al. (U.S. Patent no. 4,567,831).

The Examiner rejected claim 14 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gordon et al., and further in view of Chabot et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,060,117).

The Examiner objected to claims 2, 3, 6-13, 15, 17-22 and 24-27 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but the claims would possibly be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Independent claim 1 has been amended to include the teachings of original claim 2, which has been canceled. Independent claim 23 has been amended to include the teachings of original claim 24 which has been canceled.

Claim 1, as amended, teaches the proximal end of the receiver having a recess, and the distal end of the piston being complementarily to the recess. Such teachings are not disclosed by Gordon et al.; and would not be obvious in view of Gordon et al. and Chabot et al. Claim 14 is dependent upon amended claim 1.

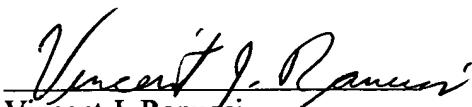
Claim 23, as amended, teaches the receiver connector structure comprising a threaded axial recess in the distal end of the receiver; and threadedly engaging a threaded shaft of a selected projectile with the threaded axial recess of the receiver. These teachings are not disclosed by Gordon et al.; and not be obvious in view of Gordon et al. and Chabot et al.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is believed that Claims 1, 3-23, and 25-27 in this application are allowable and Notice to that effect is respectfully solicited.

Should the Examiner wish to contact Applicant's attorney regarding this application, the Examiner is respectfully invited to do so by calling or writing the undersigned in the Office of Counsel, U.S. Army Soldier Systems Center, Natick, MA 01760 at (508) 233-4510.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date

  
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